



By VERYL SANDERSON
Courier Farm Editor

Rendering a Service

Dead animals on farms not only are a nuisance, but are costly.

Naturally, the first step is to prevent the animal from dying at all. But once the carcass is there, it's going to cost you money to have it removed besides the lost investment.

I think all rendering pick-up services in Iowa are now charging.

TOM SCARBOROUGH, STATION foreman based in Waterloo for National By-Products, Inc., says his firm started charging \$2 a call as of Dec. 30.

The firm runs a 24-hour service except Sundays.

"The quicker we get the calls, the faster the service. During hot and humid weather," Scarborough explains, "we have to get the animals within 24 hours or they're no good to us."

"If the carcass is deteriorated, we can't take it, unless it was our fault for being late."

FARMERS WITH POULTRY will have look up a special method of getting rid of carcasses.

There's no salvage in poultry carcasses, according to Scarborough, and firms won't take them, unless it's an emergency situation with several hundred dead.

The problem, whether caused by laxness or inability to entice firms to pick up carcasses, has prompted the Fayette County Livestock Producers to label dead animal removal a serious problem.

DR. JOHN HERRICK, extension vet at ISU, says, "Already, we're hearing of improper disposal of dead animals despite the statute which requires disposal of carcasses within 24 hours by burning, burying or sending to a rendering plant."

"There are many infectious diseases that can be readily spread either through contamination of surface water or by direct dead animal to live animal contact."

"We're facing epidemics in nature if this disposal problem is not handled in the proper way."

Another Mislabeled

In a continuing effort to keep the record straight here's another example of gross label of farm jargon:

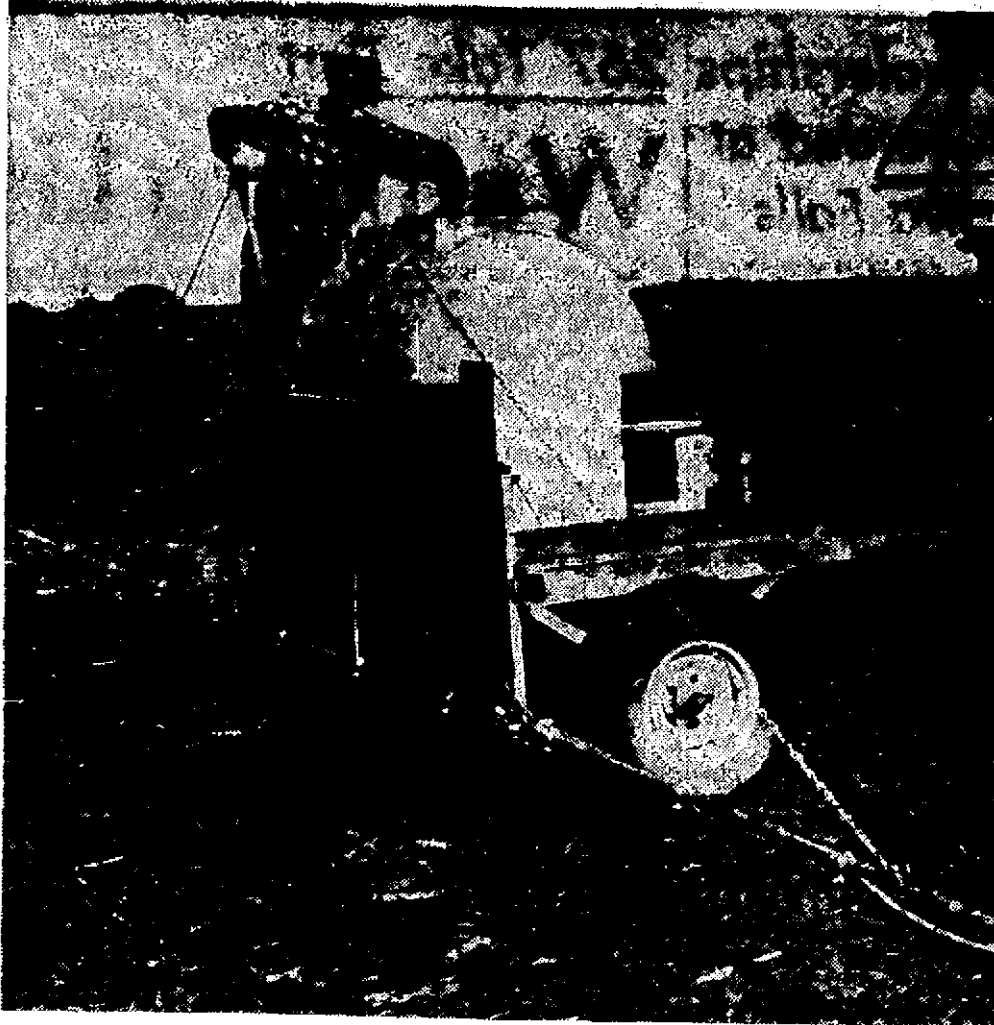
"Henpecked" men there may be, but never has a rooster been henpecked.

As a matter of fact, the rooster is one of the most triumphant male creatures on the face of the earth.

A ROOSTER DOESN'T let himself be pecked by any hen, not even his harem favorite.

His females know their place, and he keeps them in it. In origin, therefore, the expression is completely false.

Only when applied to chickenhearted human males, unfortunately, can it become true.



HOMEMADE — George Isley of Cedar Falls fills his homemade spray applicator with weed chemical. The applicator features its own gasoline engine power, an ad-

justable tongue, special platforms for loading ease and a wide wheel span. Isley built the spray applicator himself because he couldn't buy one with these features.

Commercial Outfits Don't Meet Bill; Own Unit Built

By DEAN KRUCKEBERG
CEDAR FALLS — George Isley didn't like the crop spray applicators on the market, so he built "a better one."

Isley, who farms 560 acres four miles west of Cedar Falls, says he buys needed farm equipment if he can, but if he can't find what he needs, he will make it.

Isley says his spray applicator has several advantages over commercial applicators.

Self Running

"I don't want my tractor engines racing all day long

when I apply crop spray, so I use a three-horsepower gasoline engine to power the applicator's centrifugal pump," he explains.

"The engine is mounted right on the applicator. Because I don't need to use power take off from the tractor, I can breeze down the field in a higher gear."

Isley also doesn't approve of the short wheel span most commercial applicators have.

"When long spraying booms are lowered to each side to spray twelve 30-inch rows, the short wheel span is often unstable and the ends of the booms are always hitting the

ground on one side and reaching into the sky on the other."

Even Height

Isley remedied this problem by setting his spray applicator's wheels over four crop rows apart.

According to Isley, he can hit bumps or small holes in the field with the applicator's wheels and the booms still remain at a fairly even height from the ground.

The applicator also features an adjustable tongue.

"I can safely pull the applicator behind a disk when I lengthen the tongue, Isley commented.

"There is no problem in turning around in the field pulling the two farm implements. Of course, when I pull only the applicator behind the tractor, I shorten the tongue to its minimum length."

Isley noticed most commercial sprayers have no place in which he can stand so the spray tank could be filled easily.

Wheel Span

As long as his homemade applicator had a much wider wheel span than necessary to support the tank, he built metal platforms on either side so he could fill the sprayer easily by standing on the platforms.

The 300-gallon fiberglass spray tank was purchased by Isley from a commercial sprayer company. The applicator also features balloon-like tires.

Isley attached the long booms to automobile bumper jacks which in turn are attached to the applicator's frame. By adjusting the automobile jack he can regulate boom height.

I am well satisfied with the applicator," Isley concluded. "I use it about four times a season and it serves its purpose well."

WINNERS NAMED

MANCHESTER (CNS) — Greg Glass of Dundee won first honors in the conservation speech contest here. Gary Johnson won second place and Mark Zumbach third.

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Poor Ask for More Food

WASHINGTON — Among the demands of the Agriculture Department made by leaders of the Poor People's Campaign is abolishment of subsidies "to large farmers" for not growing crops.

Attacks upon federal farm programs are not new nor are they confined to political, economic, racial or geographic boundaries. But the suggestion by Poor People's Campaign leaders has touched a sensitive nerve within the department.

Poverty Cause

Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman expressed this sensitivity in a speech last week to the American Freedom from Hunger Foundation.

Poverty is the underlying cause of hunger in the United States, Freeman said, not lack of agricultural production.

"Those who would fight poverty by attacking farm programs are misguided," he said. "To end farm programs would create more poverty and more hunger."

Freeman examined briefly what he said would happen if federal farm programs were scrapped. Those farmers who lacked the financial reserves to weather the storm, he said, would be driven off the land "by the thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, leaving it in monopoly hands."

No Pretense

Freeman doesn't pretend

federal farm programs have halted the exodus of people from the farms. Statistics show otherwise, and Freeman frequently has noted them in his speeches.

Since World War II, he said recently, the population of the United States has grown 55 million, or by 37 per cent. And, he pointed out, in the same period nearly 3 million farms "disappeared as a result of the technological revolution in agriculture."

Rural poverty has rarely been ignored in Freeman's speeches. In many ways, he has explained, the Department of Agriculture is committed to the improvement of rural life.

The issue between the department and the Poor

People's Campaign is many sided, fraught with problems that splash across bureaucratic areas of responsibility, but plunges deeply into the complexity of each.

More Food

Why, say the poor people, doesn't the Department of Agriculture make more food available immediately to hunger areas? Why isn't the food stamp program expanded? Why doesn't the department concentrate more of its total resources on ending hunger?

Freeman cited figures last week to show what his department has been doing: Since 1960 the distribution of government food has been expanded from 5 to 18 commodities; food programs soon will include 6.1 million persons in 2,400 counties, nearly double the 1960 figures.

"But what we have done is clearly not enough," Freeman said, "and I will tell you very frankly that we will not be able to do enough to meet the needs of the hungry here in the United States with the resources that have so far been made available to us."

Poverty and its degradations, he said, are the basic evils.

In calling for a viable, universal effort to conquer poverty as the true solution to hunger problems, Freeman and the leaders of the Poor People's Campaign cannot be far from agreement.

Extension EXCERPTS . . .

Forages Offer Challenge

By W. D. DAVIDSON
County Extension Director

Before getting into this week's subject, there is a correction from last week's tornado article. The safest corner of the basement is the southwest—not the southeast.

The first crop of alfalfa hay will soon be upon us. Grass-legume crops in Iowa are grown on nearly 11 million acres. Nearly three million acres are in hay crops and 7 1/2 million acres are in pasture. In addition to grasses and legumes, the use of row crops for silage green-chop or aftermath grazing such as corn and sorghums also add significantly to the forage supply.

The acreage of sorghum crops is small but approximately one-half million acres of corn are now harvested for silage. The use of these crops as forage is slowly increasing.

The real problem with most forage crops is to improve their yield, quality and utilization and to fit them into the farm business to create income and profit. There is opportunity to do this but it's not easy. Forage crops do suffer from lack of broad-based research effort but in spite of this, there is a wide gap between what is known and what is applied by the majority of producers. The challenge ahead is to make farmers and others more aware of the potential value of forage crops and how they can be a profitable part of the crop and livestock program.

Profit from Forage

Here are four keys to greater profit with forages: (1) greater yields, (2) higher quality, (3) mechanized handling, and (4) effective livestock feeding. This is a big order but aggressive Iowa farmers will continue to appraise, innovate and move ahead with new technologies to meet opportunities now at hand or yet to appear.

The high-yield fever is beginning to reach forage crops. Researchers and some farmers are reporting 10-ton alfalfa yields, 30 and 40-ton corn silage yields, 500 pounds beef per acre of pasture, etc. Yields are going up as a result of improved varieties, better understanding of time and fertilizer needs and cultural practices necessary for thick vigorous stands.

Quality in forages expressed by nutritive value and palatability is being given more attention. Grasses and legumes are low energy crops compared

to corn but they are high protein crops. The high protein potential in legumes is their strong suit and should be capitalized on. Palatability is important too. This influences the intake rate by livestock and results in better milk production or weight gains. High nutritive value and palatability require frequent harvest at early growth stages plus proper storage to conserve high quality.

No Exception

No crop can succeed in this day and age unless it can be highly mechanized. Forages are no exception. Much progress has been made in mechanized harvesting and handling of forages. This progress applies all along the line—in the field, in and out of storage and into the feed bunk. The notoriously tough handling job is being made easier.

The first alfalfa harvest should be made between full-bud and one-tenth bloom stages. It is time to start cutting when

the first flowers show, normally the last week in May or early June.

Basically, there are two main reasons for early cutting: better quality and maximum yield. As alfalfa approaches full bloom, the protein content drops and the fiber content increases. Also, removing the first crop early saves growing time and water for the next crop and actually increases yields. The second and third harvest will come at five to six week intervals.

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Iowa farm experts are reporting extensive damage to this year's small grain crops. Some farmers reportedly are plowing up oat fields to replant to other crops because of it.

Generally, the damage is attributed to a herbicide that was applied last year, with oil, to kill weeds that already had emerged in corn. This left chemical residues in the field to hurt susceptible crops — and, as the experts say, "It was bound to happen."

Why take chances with your crops, either this year or next? There is a better, safer way to control weeds' post-emergence . . . if you act promptly and in time.

The answer is Ramrod, the "no carry-over" corn herbicide from Monsanto. That's right — Ramrod wettable powder can be sprayed on your corn fields until grass reaches the two-leaf stage, and it will do a superb job of cleaning your fields — without damage to your corn and without the danger of chemical carry-over. Just follow directions on the label.

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But — please, use Ramrod at the right time. Catch weeds in the two-leaf stage or earlier. Late applications may not work.

Check your fields now and, if conditions are right, use Ramrod this year — and next year — you'll be glad you did. Your dealer is ready to serve you.

MONSANTO



Rural Storm Damage

The home of Mrs. Ludwina Ziemetz of rural Elma literally disappeared in rubble May 15 as the series of killer tornadoes hit Northeast Iowa. Mrs. Ziemetz was not at home at the time, but six of her children were in the basement of the structure. Mrs. Ziemetz also has two other children at home besides nine others not at home. During the brunt of the storm a clothes dryer tipped over on one

of the children, but only slight bruises were reported. Other farms in the area were extensively damaged also. Rep. John Culver, D-Iowa, said Friday farm losses in northern Iowa will be at least \$2.7 million. He urged a transfer of money to the emergency credit revolving funds of the Farmers Home Administration to aid stricken farmers.

(Courier Photo)

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